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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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for Misleading S.A.

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1. At a meeting of the SED Parteivorstand which was held in Berlin about 12 September 1948, Colonel Tyulpanov bitterly criticized the SED for having misled the S.A. The Soviets had based their policy on the SED having the popular support they claimed. He referred at length to the rival demonstrations in Berlin as reflecting the true state of popular opinion.
2. As a result the Soviets are now in the position of having either to fight a war for Berlin or face the fact that they have lost the struggle unless they are able to make up the leeway in the diplomatic field.
3. Nevertheless, the Communists could not give up the long-term struggle for Berlin. The SED must therefore purge the party and the police of unreliable elements in order to continue the fight with a better chance of success than was hitherto possible.
4. Tyulpanov then referred to the possibility of the Soviets leaving Berlin and the Eastern Zone but made the point that this would naturally occur only on condition that all occupation forces were withdrawn. In this event it would be the SED task to maintain a Communist regime in the Eastern Zone as a base from which to expand over all of Germany. A larger, more carefully selected, and well-trained police force was a first prerequisite. The Soviets would see to it that under the terms of their withdrawal this police force would be left intact under the new German government.
5. He concluded by emphasizing the need for a small and reliable cadre from which the mass movement would spring, and compared the SED technique in this respect unfavorably with that of the Nazis in their early days.

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